



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
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Press Release

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL McGRAW SUES
MINERAL WELLS COMPANY, PYROTECHNIC SPECIALTIES,
FOR DEFRAUDING WEST VIRGINIANS OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS**

Attorney General McGraw filed a lawsuit today in the Circuit Court of Kanawha County against Pyrotechnic Specialties Fireworks Display Company (Pyrotechnic Specialties), a Mineral Wells company that sells and displays fireworks. The owners of Pyrotechnic Specialties, Stephen and Sharon Bowles, took deposits from several organizations for fireworks shows. These organizations included Lincoln County Fairs and Festivals, Inc., Town of Gassaway, and the General Federation of Women's Club. In each instance, Pyrotechnic Specialties failed to perform the fireworks exhibition. When the organizations requested refunds of their deposits, the Bowles' refused to refund them their money.

Attorney General McGraw began investigating Pyrotechnic Specialties after receiving complaints from organizations in Berkeley, Braxton, and Lincoln counties. The business refused to resolve the consumers' complaints after being contacted by the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division. "When businesses refuse to respond to our attempts to mediate consumers' complaints, my office has no other choice but to file a lawsuit to get consumers' money back," said Attorney General McGraw.

The Attorney General's lawsuit alleges two violations of the West Virginia Consumer Credit and Protection Act and asks the Court to order the Bowles to refund the organizations' deposits and assess a \$5,000 civil penalty for each violation of the Act. Attorney General McGraw advises consumers who have paid Pyrotechnic Specialties for firework displays they have not received to file a complaint with his Consumer Protection Division by calling 1-800-368-8808.

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